

Agriculture & Extension Education Committee
August 4, 2006
Minutes

Committee members present: Wilbur Petroskey, Paul Dean, Tom Rudolph, Guy Hansen, and Romelle Vandervest.

Others present: Patricia McGee, Jim Winkler, John Coyle, Judi Robertson, Jim Kumbera and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chair Wilbur Petroskey at 9 a.m.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Paul Dean/Romelle Vandervest to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

New committee member: Chair Wilbur Petroskey welcomed Romelle Vandervest to the Committee.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Guy Hansen/Tom Rudolph to approve the minutes with grammatical corrections. Discussion followed. All ayes; motion carried.

Date of future meetings:

August 18, 2006	9 a.m.	Extension Classroom
September 11, 2005	1:30 p.m.	Extension Classroom

OCEDC update: Jim Kumbera gave an update on ABX facility. Facility has been connected to sewer and water this past week with plans to complete road construction and electrical power hookup next week. Most of the equipment has arrived with plans for equipment runs in the next two weeks. He also reported the State wants to reduce revolving loan programs in the state from 250 to 12 -- forming regional funds. Vilas, Forest, Florence, Langlade, Lincoln and Oneida Counties, the Town of Laona, and Cities of Antigo and Merrill would form one region, with Oneida County being the regional center being managed by the Northeast WI Economic Development Corporation out of the OCEDC office. This merge would consolidate approximately \$4.5-5 million dollars into one fund. The creation of this type of fund would relieve some of the stricter regulations allowing us to provide greater services to the business community in the entire region. If a jurisdiction opts out of the Corporation, they will not be able to access funds but are able to keep their current fund. In the interim, the OCEDC Board has asked Kumbera to request an increase in the cap from \$100,000 to \$250,000 of Oneida County's current fund from the Oneida County Finance Committee and County Board.

Kumbera is currently working on getting the new business park annexed into the City and having the property rezoned. He also reported they may have received funding to assist with the business park. Patricia McGee will also be meeting with the OCEDC Board regarding funding ideas. Motion by Tom Rudolph/Guy Hansen to approve the OCEDC monthly update. All ayes; motion carried.

TAG update: Jim Winkler reported he met with the Building and Grounds Committee to discuss options of seating youth as requested. The Committee has directed Curt Krouze to come up with a plan and report at the next County Board meeting. Winkler also distributed a copy of a letter received from the Three Lakes School District regarding the liability issue. He has met with Roger Erdahl and noted the Rhinelander School District is on board verbally but the issue has to be addressed at the School Board meeting on 8/21/06. LUHS is still discussing the liability issue and are concerned because of travel time. Winkler felt that we should proceed with the program and when the schools agree to the liability issue they can participate. Discussion followed. Winkler indicated the schools are willing to make the commitment in getting the students to the meetings. Those who would drive the students would need to pass a school background check. It was suggested talking with Corp Counsel regarding a waiver of liability to be included with the application. Motion by Romelle Vandervest/Tom Rudolph to accept report from Jim Winkler regarding the TAG program. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Romelle Vandervest/Tom Rudolph directing Jim Winkler to get liability questions answered worked out in preparation for the upcoming county board meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

Guy Hansen excused at 9:45 a.m. for another meeting.

Monthly fair invoices: Motion by Romelle Vandervest/Tom Rudolph to approve the monthly invoices for the Oneida County Fair. All ayes; motion carried.

Judi Robertson distributed report regarding attendance and gross revenue with plans to bring a comparison of last year and this year's attendance for the next meeting. John Coyle reported the Kids from Wisconsin put on a fine show and the Subcommittee is interested in having them back next year. He feels the weather played a role in attendance but is pleased with the turnout. Subcommittee members are unaware of any problems or injuries and are very pleased with media coverage the Fair received. The Ag & Extension Committee commended the Subcommittee for their efforts.

Land search for fairgrounds: Jim Winkler provided copies of the amended survey regarding fairgrounds in other counties, as requested at previous meeting. Winkler will provide summarized results at a future meeting and plans to share the findings with the Subcommittee. He also provided data collected regarding fairgrounds in other counties gathered by an agent in Rusk County.

Lengthy discussion followed regarding bussing folks out to the fairgrounds, location of the fairgrounds, and new activities/attractions. Winkler noted Hodag 50 offers many amenities -- most importantly facility infrastructure.

Monthly budget report: Motion by Romelle Vandervest/Tom Rudolph to approve the monthly budget report for the period ending 6/30/06 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Paul Dean/Romelle Vandervest to approve the monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

2007 personnel/equipment requests: Kerri Ison reported she has not received guidelines from Labor Relations or Buildings and Grounds at this time. Items were tabled to next meeting.

Monthly agent reports: Patricia McGee noted the WI Partnership Grants come out of medical college and medical school of WI yearly. Funding is to help Wisconsin collaboratives move forward the Healthy Wisconsin Initiatives that primarily targets health projects that increase the health and well being of Wisconsin's general citizenry. If awarded, Grow North would be the fiscal/lead agency and Health People Healthy Oneida County coalition is the collaborative. Funding would be used to address tobacco use, obesity and lack of health care in Oneida County. Grant is \$450,000 distributed evenly over three years. She has also been doing grant advisement this past month as well. Tom Rudolph commended McGee for all of her work.

Out-of-county travel requests:

McGee:

August 2-3, 2006	District Dept. Head Retreat	Superior*
August 7, 2006	WPF granting writing workshop	Stevens Point*

Motion by Tom Rudolph/Paul Dean to approve the out-of-county travel requests as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Public comment: Tom Rudolph noted the Daily News printed an article regarding his WACEC tenure award, noting it is good public relations for Extension. Wilbur Petroskey commended Jim Winkler for continuing to provide weekly articles to the Daily News. Winkler noted past articles are posted on the office website as well.

Items for next agenda: Fair report, TAG, budget requests, update on Family Living position.

Adjournment: Motion by Tom Rudolph/Paul Dean to adjourn at 11 a.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison
Recording Secretary

Wilbur Petroskey, Chair